

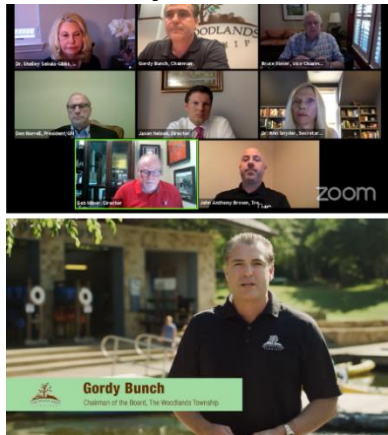


NEWS RELEASE

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## The Woodlands Township COVID-19 Update, Friday, May 15, 2020

### *Township Board met Thursday, opened more facilities*



The Woodlands Township Board of Directors held a Special Board of Directors Meeting via videoconference on Thursday, May 14, 2020 and opened more amenities and facilities. The Board of Directors approved opening dog parks, basketball courts and more. Opening of the pools, Texas TreeVentures and other amenities will be coming soon. View the [press release](#) online.

### **County News**

#### **COVID-19 Testing Sites**

Three COVID-19 drive-thru testing sites are opening today in Walmart parking lots. The sites are supported by Walmart, eTrueNorth and state and local officials to test anyone who meets CDC and state and local guidelines on who should be tested. Those interested in being tested need to visit [www.DoINeedCOVID19test.com](http://www.DoINeedCOVID19test.com) to see if eligible for testing and to make an appointment. For more information including dates, times, address and more, please read the [press release](#).

America's ER was selected and contracted by the Montgomery County Hospital District (MCHD) and the Montgomery County Public Health Department (MCPHD) to provide COVID-19 testing for up to 12,000 Montgomery county residents at America's ER's drive-through testing facilities. Please read [today's press release for more information](#).

Testing is scheduled to continue at Bear Branch Park on Research Forest on Saturday and Sunday, May 16 & 17, 2020, depending on the weather. Kroger is providing free testing at the park (5205 Research Forest Drive in The Woodlands, TX 77381). You must register and be symptomatic, or be a healthcare worker or first responder.

To register for testing, please visit Kroger Health's free screening tool to determine if testing is appropriate at [krogerhealth.com/covidtesting](https://krogerhealth.com/covidtesting). This screening tool was adapted from CDC recommendations and is intended to identify patients who need testing the most. Screened individuals can schedule and pre-register for a test at a convenient location.

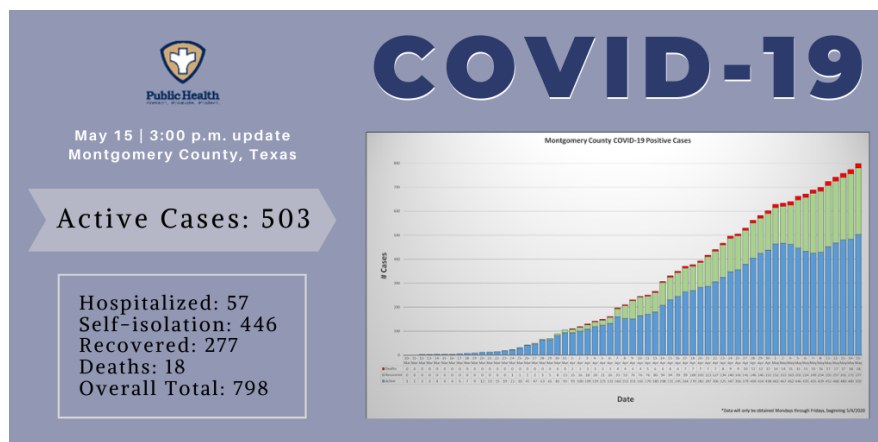
For more information about free testing for residents in The Woodlands, [click here](#).

### Montgomery County COVID-19 Case Count

Montgomery County Public Health District, in conjunction with Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, can confirm the number of ACTIVE cases of COVID-19 has increased to 503 today. That number includes 57 hospitalizations. 277 people have fully recovered. The number of total positive cases has increased 25 since yesterday to 798.

Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management updates a dashboard for the cases here: <https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com>.

Details on individual cases can be found here: <https://mcphd-tx.org/coronavirus-covid-19/confirmed-cases/>.



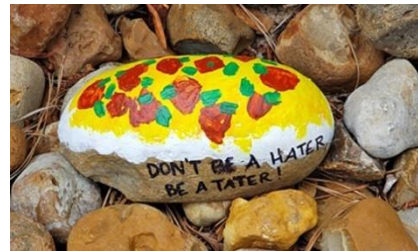
## Harris County COVID-19 Case Count

As of May 15, 2020 (4 p.m.), Harris County Public Health (HCPH) has 3,710 positive cases (1,391 **active** cases). HCPH is also confirming that 2,240 of its patients have recovered. There have been 84 total deaths of COVID-19 in Harris County. None of these numbers include the City of Houston. A full description of the numbers can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/tzymvk5>

Cases by zip code in Harris County can be found here by clicking on [areas of the map](#).

The Village of Creekside Park is located in two zip codes: 77375 and 77389 and these also include Magnolia, Augusta Pines/Auburn Lakes/West Rayford Road in northwest Harris County. Today, Harris County is reporting zip code 77375 has 69 cases and 77389 has 45 cases.

## Township News



### #TownshipTogether

Send us your photos! The Woodlands Township is calling on residents to share images of inspiration within the community. These can be a photo of something seen in the neighborhood, a family project or anything with a positive message. These will be shared through the Township email updates, social media channels and on [The Woodlands Township website](#). Send your photos to [TownshipTogether@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov](mailto:TownshipTogether@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov).

### Thinking About a Home Improvement?

Applications for improvements are being reviewed and acted on by Township Covenant Administration staff. Applications can be mailed or submitted online. Please visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covenants](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covenants) for additional information.

Applications can be **mailed** to:  
The Woodlands Township  
2801 Technology Forest Blvd.  
The Woodlands, Texas 77381

Or **submitted online** to: [covad@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov](mailto:covad@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov)

Application forms and any other additional requirements for review and submittal can be found on the website: <https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/148/Application-Forms>.

### **A Water Safety Message from Township Neighborhood Watch**

With so many families at home and searching for ways to keep their children busy, many families are turning toward water-related activities. However, over the past few weeks, there has also been an increase in drownings. Several children in the greater Houston area have lost their lives while many others have been treated at local hospitals.

The biggest threat to young children is unsupervised access to water. It only takes a few seconds for a tragedy to happen while you are focusing on a work call or other distraction. *Constant supervision is key!*

Some safety tips to incorporate:

- Create barriers between your children and the water.
- Designate a water watcher to monitor young children.
- Remove balls and toys from the pool to eliminate temptation to a child.
- Drain inflatable pools after each use and store them upside down.
- Do not rely on water wings. Non-swimmers should wear an approved flotation device.

See the [Water Safety Tips article](#) in the May edition of The Woodlands Community Magazine for more water safety information.

To learn more about The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Watch, please follow us on our Facebook page @townshipneighborhoodwatch or visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/neighborhoodwatch](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/neighborhoodwatch).



### **Ready, Set, Riva Row: Riva Row Boat House Re-Opens**

The Riva Row Boat House welcomes residents and guests back for fun on the water! To make your reservation for fun on the The Woodlands Waterway and Lake Woodlands, please call 281-210-3695. Please note, to eliminate cash/card handling on-site, all payments for reservations must be made over the phone. No cash will be accepted. Visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/rivarowboathouse](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/rivarowboathouse) for more information.



### **Did You Know?**

The Woodlands Township received the 2019 National Gold Medal Award Grand Plaque for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management from the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA), in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The Woodlands Township Parks and Recreation Department represents the first community in the Houston region to earn the NRPA Gold Award.

### **Harris County to Add Contract Tracers; Cooperation is Key but Beware of Scammers**

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo has announced the on-boarding of 200 contact tracers who will be trained to help minimize the spread of COVID-19 locally. Harris County officials plan to have a total of 300 contact tracers trained by May 22, 2020.

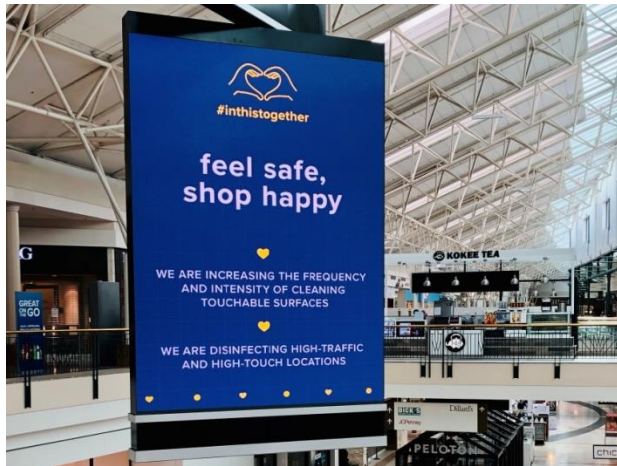
CDC describes contact tracing as "part of the process of supporting patients and warning contacts of exposure in order to stop chains of transmission." Contact tracing has been in use for decades as a public health strategy. [Learn more about contact tracing.](#)

Due to the risk of scammers who might attempt to take advantage of the COVID-19 situation, please note the following fraud-prevention tips:

- Harris County contact tracers will never ask for information regarding social security numbers, bank accounts or immigration status.
- Contact tracing is free to the public. You should never be asked for a payment of any kind related to contact tracing in Harris County.
- Testing is free and open to everyone. Please visit <http://HCPHTX.org> or call 832-927-7575 for more testing information or to report suspected fraud related to contact tracing.



## About the Township



### Open Stores in The Woodlands Mall

The Woodlands Mall reopened on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. The mall will be open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Visit their website for the list of [currently open stores](#), [safety measures](#) and [curbside pickup options](#).

### The Woodlands Farmer's Market

The Woodlands Farmer's Market is currently closed, but is re-opening May 23, 2020, next weekend! Customers are encouraged to check the website, Facebook page or newsletter for definite details including phases in which the market will open, participating vendors, and best practices for visitors.

### Open Hotels in The Woodlands

Many of The Woodlands hotel properties are open and ready to welcome you to their location. Get excited for the reopening of The Woodlands Resort on May 20, 2020. Find all the details on the [website](#). Below is a list of all open hotels in The Woodlands at this time. Be sure to stay up to date by viewing Visit The Woodlands [online](#).

- [Best Western Plus](#)
- [Candlewood Suites](#)
- [Drury Inn The Woodlands](#)
- [Hilton Garden Inn](#)
- [Hyatt Place](#)
- [Residence Inn Lakefront Drive](#)
- [Residence Inn Market Street](#)



### **National Travel and Tourism Week**

Visit The Woodlands joins destinations across the state and country to recognize the annual National Travel and Tourism Week. This has always been a time to acknowledge the economic impact of meetings, events, concerts and visitors to The Woodlands' economy. In this new season of COVID-19, the week has changed to a month and from hosting in-person events and meetings to a virtual salute to the ["Spirit of Hospitality."](#)

Show your love of The Woodlands in your next virtual meeting or family happy hour with our complimentary [Zoom backgrounds](#) from Visit The Woodlands. From illustrations to scenes from around The Woodlands, you can now share them with your friends and coworkers as you "meet."

### ***Community Resources***

Numerous resources are available in the community for support. These vary from food banks to financial assistance and much more. Please visit the link below to find more information about resources in the community related to COVID-19: <http://thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/1491/Community-Resources>.

### **The Township's Coronavirus page**

The Woodlands Township's special COVID-19 information page can be found at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19). This page features Montgomery and Harris county Hubs, community resources and updated COVID-19 news from the Federal Government and the CDC. This page also includes the latest news from The Township, updates from partner agencies, social distancing strategies, important links, frequently asked questions, live Twitter feeds and more.



### **Mosaics of Mercy**

Mosaics of Mercy is a non-profit that serves as a hub for resources for mental well-being. The organization stays current on the available mental health resources for our community, including the status of treatment programs, counselors seeing clients through telehealth, and virtual support groups.

More information can be found at [www.mosaicsofmercy.com](http://www.mosaicsofmercy.com). Help is available Monday - Friday from 9 am - 5 pm at 346-703-0051 for personal assistance navigating resources. There are current resources listed at <https://mosaicsofmercy.com/coronavirus/>. New episodes of the Hope Pieced Together podcast are released weekly, interviewing local professionals on topics related to mental well-being for this period. <https://mosaicsofmercy.com/hope-pieced-together/>.

### **Hotlines for health questions and COVID-19**

*Montgomery County: 936-523-5040*

*Harris County: 713-634-1110*

*Statewide Mental Health Support Line: 833-986-1919*

### **Free Self-Screening Tool for COVID-19**

Visit the self-screening tool on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

### **Tracking COVID-19: Local, Regionally, Nationally, Internationally**

Below are the widgets for tracking COVID19.

- [Montgomery County](#)
- [Texas Counties Statewide](#)
- [Texas Department of Health and Human Services Case Counts](#)
- [Global Cases](#)

### **Stay Connected**

Please stay connected to The Woodlands Township through our many communications channels. Learn more and sign up at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed).

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*The Woodlands Township publishes this update to inform residents and businesses regarding the COVID-19 and its impact on The Woodlands Township. Please sign up for Township news and notifications at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme).*